
6th World Congress of the OsteoArthritis Research Society International



30 September–3 October 2001, Washington, USA

Welcome from the President

It is my utmost pleasure to welcome you to the beautiful city of Washington, D.C. to attend the Sixth World Congress of the OsteoArthritis Research Society International (OARSI). The outstanding scientific program put together by the Scientific Program Committee, very ably chaired by Drs Rolly Moskowitz and David Eyre, reflects the extraordinary progress achieved just in the last few months in the field of osteoarthritis. This notable progress has been accomplished across all areas of clinical and laboratory investigations, and although we are still very far from our ultimate goals of finding the cause and cure for this devastating disease, it is very apparent that the impact of the Genome Project, of the application of advanced methods in molecular biology and proteomics, and of the outstanding success of high quality clinical, therapeutic, and epidemiological studies have moved us several steps closer to reaching these elusive but achievable goals. Indeed, the broad spectrum of topics that will be discussed during the Congress in the form of invited lectures, podium and poster presentations, and symposia is clearly at the cutting edge and advancing frontiers of this powerful wave of progress in osteoarthritis research.

Very appropriately, given the venue of the Congress, will be the presentation at the opening session of Dr Stephen Katz, Director of the National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases of the National Institutes of Health, which will focus on the large efforts and the accomplishments of the Institute in fostering and supporting osteoarthritis research. Dr Katz's presentation will be followed by an overview of the past, present and future of the osteoarthritis field, given by Dr Henry Mankin, one of the most recognized and respected figures in the osteoarthritis horizon. The high quality of the speakers who will deliver the numerous scientific presentations, and the outstanding scientific level of the large number of abstracts that will be presented during the Congress certainly assure an unprecedented success. I am convinced that this Congress will prove to be a remarkable and unforgettable experience for all attendees who have joined from across the world. Welcome to the Sixth World Congress of the OsteoArthritis Research Society International.

Sergio A. Jimenez

President